SEPTEMBER 19, 1882.

The President, Dr. LEIDY, in the chair.

Thirty-four persons present.

A paper entitled "Verification of the Habitat of Conrad's Mytilus bifurcatus," by R. E. C. Stearns, was presented for publication.

SEPTEMBER 26, 1882.

The President, Dr. LEIDY, in the chair.

Twenty persons present.

A paper entitled "Rotifera without Rotary Organs," by Prof. Jos. Leidy, was presented for publication.

On the Tobacco-worm, etc.—Prof. LEIDY exhibited a collection of tobacco-worms, the larvæ of *Sphinx carolina*, which he had obtained two days ago from a tobacco-field, near Columbus, New Jersey, where they were very abundant, and had proved a great pest in the cultivation of tobacco. The worms collected presented a number of well-marked varieties, which were supposed to be all of the same species. The principal ones were indicated as follows:

1. Pea-green or yellowish green, more or less finely hairy, with lateral oblique white bands bordered above with black dots which extend to the dorsal median line; head bright pea-green, dorso-caudal spine red. This is the most common variety.

2. Pea-green, smooth, with lateral oblique white bands joined in front below by horizontal white bands so as to form a series of ⊱-like marks, the apex of each joining the lower limb of the one in advance; head green; dorso-caudal spine black.

3. Grass-green, smooth, with lateral white V-like marks as in No. 2; the oblique bands bordered above by blackish or brownish; upper part, especially in front, more or less dotted with white; head green, with a pair of black bands on each side; dorso-caudal spine black.

4. Yellowish green, annulated with narrow black lines; with lateral white V-like marks, the oblique bands bordered above with black; head bright pea-green; dorso-caudal spine red.

5. Dull green, with more or less brown dorsally and dotted with white, the dots more or less tuberculate, but otherwise smooth; with lateral white V-like marks, the oblique band bordered above with brown ascending to the dorsal median line; head green with a lateral pair of black bands; dorso-caudal spine black.

6. Chocolate-brown to nearly black, smooth, with white dots dorsally and anteriorly, with lateral white V-like marks; head shining black on each side; dorso-caudal spine shining black.

7. The same as No. 6, with lateral red V-like marks.

Among these more marked varieties others were noticed which were more or less of an intermediate character. The most common variety was that which was least distinguishable in color from the animal's location, the tobacco-leaf, so that it was especially favored in its preservation.

Prof. Leidy further remarked that the past season had appeared to be favorable to many of the Lepidoptera. Our shade-trees had been greatly ravaged by the *Orgyia;* many of the poplars had suffered from the *Clostera inclusa*, and he had observed an unusual quantity of the Ailanthus silk-worm, *Attacus cynthia*, upon the Ailanthus-trees. The latter was introduced here in 1861, by Dr. Thomas Stewardson.

Dr. Wm. M. Gray was elected a member.

OCTOBER 3, 1882.

The President, Dr. LEIDY, in the chair.

Twenty-seven members present.

Apparent Bird Tracks by the Sea-shore.—MR. THOMAS MEEHAN called attention to what appeared to be the track of a three-toed bird in the sand, near low-water mark, at Atlantic City. They were generally regarded by observers as bird tracks. While looking at them, recently, he noted that there were no birds about to make such recent tracks, and also that the tracks would have to be made in every case by a bird facing the water, which, in the nature of things, would be improbable. While reflecting on this, he noted on the face of the smooth receding waves, spots where the water sparkled in the light, and he found this was caused by little riplets as the wavelet passed down over the half exposed bodies of a small crustacean, *Hippa talpoidea*, and that the water in passing over the bodies, made the trifid marks which had been taken for impressions of bird's feet. This little creature took shelter in the sand near low-water mark, and entered head foremost in a perpendicular direction downwards, resting just beneath the surface. The returning wave took some of the surface sand with it, and thus the lower portions of the bodies, uppermost in the sand, were exposed. Often the creatures would be entirely washed out, when, recovering themselves, they rapidly advanced in a direction contrary to the retreat of the wave, and entered the wet sand again as before, their sides being parallel with the shore. The body terminated in a caruncular point which, with the posi-